



TREE AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016
2:30 – 4:00 PM
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
280 MADISON AVE N
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jon Quitslund, Kol Medina, Sarah Blossom, Ron Peltier, Mack Pearl

COBI STAFF: Jennifer Sutton

PUBLIC: Cam Fletcher, Jonathan Davis, Robert Dashiell, Charles Schmid

The meeting came to order soon after 2:30. The notes for the April 13 meeting were discussed and approved. Kol called for confirmation of his sense that in that meeting it was decided to step back from revision of BIMC 17.20 (Subdivision Design Standards), to wait for LID regulations to be formulated first, and to move on to revision of BIMC 16.22 (Vegetation Management). It was noted that V. M. regulations are now being applied in some circumstances. Ron expressed a concern that while the standards in BIMC 17.20 remain as they are for “open space” subdivisions, we may see a large clear cut. Jon suggested that in the near future, before we return to crafting new subdivision design standards, some research should be done with the available maps and buildable lands data, to see what opportunities exist for new long plat subdivisions.

We also discussed how committee members might provide direction on the development of LID regulations. Jennifer (who is working with Public Works staff on LID), said that our regulations will be consistent with a Manual from the Department of Ecology, which will be adopted by reference. She said that the new regulations will revise or replace provisions in BIMC 15.20 (Surface and Stormwater Management); BIMC 15.21 may also be revised.

Item 2 of the agenda occupied most of the rest of the meeting. What should be the focus and extent of the inventory and valuation of trees referenced in the COBI Administrative Manual (Part 2, Submittal Requirements), D.1.(b), page 10? Questions have arisen about specifics of the Tree Retention Plan, especially in circumstances where the total site contains many trees that will not be impacted by the development (e. g., clearing for a roadway, building site, utilities, and septic system). We agreed that any trees that may be damaged during or after construction should be inventoried and valued as per subsections iii. and iv, and any trees pertinent to a tree unit calculation should be inventoried and valued. We noted that a tree’s valuation is most pertinent if it dies or is damaged, and putting a value on it will serve notice that it must be protected from harm and kept in a healthy condition. Also, we noted that the value of a tree is to some extent site-specific: a significant tree standing alone or in a small stand will have considerable value, and a lesser value if it is one of many, similar in size, in a forested area.

Jennifer will bring revised language for the Administrative Manual to a subsequent meeting. We set May 4 as the date for the next meeting, from 3 to 5 p. m.

Notes Approved: May 4, 2016

For special accommodations, please contact Jane Rasely, Planning & Community Development 206-780-3758 or at jrasely@bainbridgewa.gov